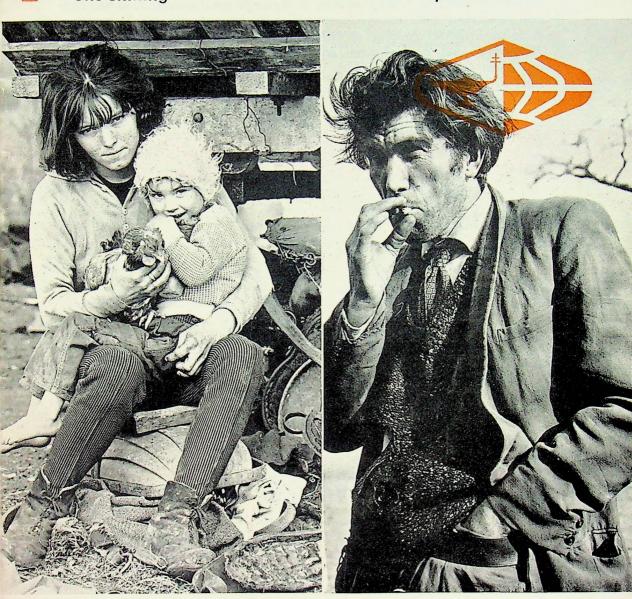
point three April 1970



POINT THREE is the monthly magazine of Toc H

Toc H members accept a four-fold commitment: 1. to build friendships across the barriers that divide man from man; 2. to give personal service; 3. to find their own convictions while always being willing to listen to the views of others; 4. to work for the building of that better world which has been called the Kingdom of God. This magazine, which acts as a forum for ideas about Toc H and about the world in which we live, takes its title from the third of these Four Points—to think fairly.

April 1970

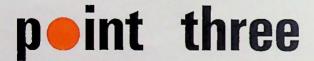
On the cover

A good photograph today says more than any other visual medium. These astonishing specimens of the photographer's art were taken by top amateur, Tony Boxall—and there are more on the centre pages.

As we go to press we have heard that Tony has been awarded the Grand Prix d'Excellence at the Concours Européen Photo-Ciné 1969. The competition was for photo features under the general title "Europe yesterday and tomorrow" and the entry which won Tony the first prize included several of the pictures we have chosen.

EDITOR Ken Prideaux-Brune ASSOC. EDITOR Huw Gibbs

Advertising, Display and classified advertisements are included in this magozine. Full rates and data can be obtained from the editorial office.



Editorial Office, 41 Trinity Square, London E.C.3. 01-709 0472

viewpoint

The search for belief

"So much of what we know, believe and accept has never been questioned by us. It has been passed on from generation to generation and accepted without question by the great majority." So wrote John Dessauer in our February issue and I think he put his finger on one of the reasons for the uncertainty and lack of confidence that afflicts Toc H today. This is a questioning age and there is no longer a body of belief accepted by the great majority. Janet Lacey, former director of Christian Aid, now the acting director of the Family Welfare Association. wrote recently: "No faith, no church, no philosophy or ideology has among us such a strong and central position that it can claim to have a monopoly and give shape to the life of society as a whole."

Long cherished beliefs are under attack. Assumptions once widely accepted are now accepted only by a faithful remnant. In this situation it is natural that "the best lack all conviction". Natural, and yet as far as Toc H is concerned unnecessary. People today may like their food fresh frozen and neatly packaged but they're not prepared to accept their beliefs or their morality on the same terms. Dogmatic statements merely provoke the question "why?", or, more disconcertingly, "so what?" But this doesn't imply a lack of interest in questions of morality or a lack of concern with the meaning and purpose of life. What it does imply is that satisfactory answers to these questions must in the first instance be drawn from our experience. Toc H, which has always shied away from dogma, need not feel threatened in this situation. We have always believed that our task was to provide the kind of experience that will help people to discover the meaning of life and its purpose for them.

I have recently come across a couple of quotations which indicate what, for me at least, are two of the guidelines in this quest for the fundamental beliefs which will give shape and purpose to life. The first was quoted by Janet Lacey in the article to which I have already referred and comes from William Faulkner's Intruders in the Dust: "Some things you must always be unable to bear. Injustice and outrage and dishonour and shame. No matter how young you are or

how old you have got. Not for kudos and not for cash: your picture in the paper nor money in the bank either. Just refuse to bear them." I must confess I find it hard to keep a sufficiently straight face for sufficiently long to be much good at burning indignation. Nonetheless I know he's right. I know there are things that we "must always be unable to bear", for this alone will make it possible to fight in ourselves the complacency and the unwillingness to rock the boat that urge us not to get involved. This alone can provide the motive power for action.

The second quotation comes from a talk by a friend of mine named Fred Williams. Fred was chaplain to the Winant Volunteers in 1966 and is now President of the Union of Black Clergy and Laymen of the American Episcopal Church. He said: "Man only becomes what he really is by radically refusing to be what others would make of him. As we affirm our blackness, we have begun to enter into the process of being men. It is our hope to have you join with us in the liberation of man from that which others would make of him, into what Christ would have us be." Fred was making an important point about race relations, but forget that aspect for a moment. Isn't the "liberation of man from that which others would make of him, into what Christ would have us be" the calling to which we in Too H are called? Isn't this what we mean when we talk about breaking down barriers, about tearing off the labels and seeing men and women as real individuals?

A great many people today, particularly young people, are searching for the meaning of life. A great many people today are aware of the spiritual dimension of life, even though they may have rejected the Christian churches. The search for meaning leads some into strange paths. Toc H can offer a surer road than drugs, a more effective path than black magic, in this search for the fundamental beliefs that give value to human life. Too H has, perhaps, more to contribute in a questioning age such as this than in an age of settled faith. The refusal to bear injustice and the liberation of man from that which others would make of him are no bad starting points in the guest on which we are engaged.

K.P-B.

NEW GROUND projects in Surrey

up and down the line

Huw Gibbs

Canon Gerald Hudson, commenting on an Old Bailey murder case involving teenagers, was quoted in the London Evening News as saying . . . "this whole business is the indictment of the permissive society which has become the selfish society, where only the few care about their neighbours and most don't want to know." This is an article about the few. That small, almost anonymous, band of people, average age about 45 to 50, who decided that the Highlands of Surrey, with summer just in bud and sunlight chasing shadows across the lush green fields, should not be denied to those families whose horizon was scarred by the factory chimney at the end of the street and grimy city walls, or to the children whose dreams of adventure in the street beyond the chintzy living room curtains are always cut short by the front steps, which have to be negotiated with leg irons or an invalid chair.

Projects in Surrey are not new, although in their present form they have probably made the biggest contribution to Toc H that there has ever been. To find out where it started you must go back to the Guildford branch Jubilee project in 1965. This was to be a boys' camp, and even then it was a revival of a camp which Guildford had started as far back as 1927. The boys attending that camp were rough. Most of them had come from home conditions of severe deprivation and their manners, to say nothing of their language, steeled those early workers for much harder conditions to come. It was not the camp's purpose to mould a dedicated army of nearly 300 regular young volunteers and eight new Toc H groups, but it has happened that way all the same. And although not one of them could tell you exactly how, no-one's complaining either.

The development of youth

That first camp, and the one which followed were run largely with staff leadership, but last year, and from now on, the whole projects management in Surrey was and will be run entirely without staff participation. Apart from controlling a full programme locally. involving some 250 volunteers, Surrey will also provide leaders for ten other national projects outside the county.

In 1966 the Family Service Units asked for the camp to be repeated and this time teenagers were invited to attend on a non-residential basis. Branches and groups in the area were also invited to the camp during evenings and at weekends. In this way the tradition of full Area involvement was started, a pattern which has continued and which deserves, perhaps, the loudest accolade for the pioneers of projects in Surrey. Incidentally, four police cadets were seconded by their superiors that year, and a contingent has attended every year since. About six of these young policemen have become Toc H members.

Volunteer leadership

The following year it became obvious that more projects would be required to meet the growing demand from young people wishing to play a part in community service and two new projects were added to the campstaffing a holiday home for the handicapped. and working with the children at Red Levs Children's Home, near Guildford. More than 200 volunteers were turned away from these projects in the first year and the Red Levs project has continued to be over subscribed whenever it is announced. By now the volunteers were beginning to take over a lot of the organising, and staff leadership was "At first the becoming less noticeable. volunteers edged a bit when they realised they would have to deal with professional social workers", Ray Fabes, S.E. Regional staff, explained, "so in the early stages I was doing this part for them."

1968 saw the camp and Red Leys projects entirely out of staff hands and the commencement of the very successful holiday week for physically handicapped children, now called "the 121 Club". It is some indication of the thoroughness and dedication of the volunteers when it is realised that it was the Invalid Children's Aid Association's own professional workers who approached the volunteers with the idea of running the holiday week. Three projects were organised at Red Levs during



Photo: Pat Thomas

1968 and branches also were playing an important part by raising money to finance residential projects and to buy a mini-bus for Red Leys Home.

A new kind of Movement was taking shape in Surrey, with a tradition born in the sixties and a point of view more diverse and demanding than anything that had been experienced before. Towards the end of the year a meeting was called to determine just what could be tackled the following year and to try to isolate and consider the widely differing reasons for doing it. Like the University student who told me that Toc H had given her the chance to help in the children's home, paint flats for old people and visit a home for ex-prisoners-"all activities which involve thinking about other people's problems, rather than one's own, and involve making an effort in an un-self-centred way." She went on, "it is through this that I have found that I am in some sense happier when thinking about and doing things for other people rather than myself, which is perhaps part of what Christ meant by 'whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it". Or the person who said "I joined Toc H because I felt I was sitting on my backside too much, doing nothing and meeting nobody except my close circle of friends. I now find that I am never sitting down and make new friends every month." This same volunteer met his wife among a crop of volunteers and both now give all of their spare time to projects organisation.

The October meeting

This is one of three marriages which have taken place in new Toc H groups during the past two years. He also remarked to me "something which makes me think is the way in which whenever Toc H finds a need they always manage to fulfil it regardless of cost. It makes me realise that this cannot all be just luck or hard work, but that some other Being is looking after us."

Manual workers, policemen, students, city businessmen, secretaries, engineers, schoolboys, housewives and shopkeepers—they are all there. As one of them put it, "if I stopped working for Toc H tomorrow I would feel an emptiness: I would not be able to enjoy life as I do today."

That first get together has since become known as "the October meeting" when all volunteers, supporters, representatives of Toc H Districts, social and charity workers, family service units, hospitals and donors meet to discuss the year's activities and plan for the following summer. The "fall out" of information, suggestions and data from this annual explosive event lead, naturally, to the election of a committee to organise the



The Surrey camp. The lady threatening everybody with the spoon is Jenny Fabes, Ray's wife.

Photo: Pat Thomas.

ensuing year and it was in 1968 that Ray Fabes was not elected for the first time since the 1965 camp. As he put it, "they were determined not to have me as the staff person and therefore all jobs dealing with statutory or voluntary agencies were taken over by them—a big step."

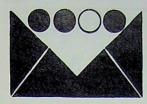
A big step indeed, summed up by Rodney Broomfield, an assistant company secretary and chairman for 1969/70, as follows. "My first reaction was one of anxiety and fear and I asked myself 'what have we done?' But I realize that this was just the challenge we needed to prove that we had learned something after nearly five years' staff leadership on our behalf." In the autumn Rodney's spell as chairman will end because it is felt that no office should be held for more than two years. "We make it clear to the vice-chairmen that they are expected to take over," Rodney said, "this prevents the committee from becoming stale and also presents us with the need to be constantly searching for new leadership," communication is a priority item throughout projects planning and members of the main committee also serve on both the nearby District teams as well as District chairmen being automatically voted onto the main committee.

In a report to the Central Executive, Ray Fabes wrote, "It is difficult to define where the 'urban' situation starts and ends. I believe that the commuter belt is just as much a part of the city, where those who live here work. and is just as much a part of the urban situation as the twilight area ghettoes where many bodies rush in to 'help' in a paternal way." Later on in the same report he wrote, " . . for the future we hope to increase our involvement up and down the Southern Region railway line to London, with outer Surrey, exchanging volunteers, places and placements with those in inner London. We want to work more with statutory bodies of ¶ whom we are constantly asking, 'what is the need?"".

NEXT MONTH
The organisation behind
Surrey projects and what
Toc H means to the volunteers.

Projects in Focus

John Burgess, Projects Co-Ordinator, would like to see all photographs and transparencies taken during projects this summer. His aim is to build an up-to-the-minute visual record for use in talks to schools and youth groups. Please send yours to Toc H, 42 Crutched Friars, London E.C.3, with a S.A.E. if you want them back.



Reform or revolution?

The article by John Dessauer in your February issue recalled a warning I heard at a Clergy school last year. This pointed out the tendency to depict Christ in terms of the atmosphere of the age in which we live. In Victorian days our Lord was seen as the ideal gentleman; in the first half of this century as a reformer; and now, with ideas of revolution in the air, John Dessauer voices a prevalent view in the words "remembering that Christ was a revolutionary and not a reformer..."

Perhaps the truth of our Lord's person still eludes us. Perhaps we are justified in what we affirm of Him, but on less certain grounds in what we deny. Perhaps He was a "gentle man" and a reformer as well as a revolutionary. Remembering the promise of His presence, deeper, more exciting insights may yet await us.

Edward Burnley Bradford-on-Avon

I am afraid that I am now so much out of touch with "Toc H in the round" that I did not even see that Questionnaire!

Howbeit, as one who came back into active Church membership in 1933, and later into the ministry, through Salford Toc H and the Mark XIV chapel, I should like to contribute to your discussion.

Granted Alan Pratt's point that one task is to "bring a simple faith to a complex community" John Dessauer's "simplification" will not do! (Nor does it agree with his own work as a Probation Officer!)

On the great issue of "Reform or Revolution" Jesus appears plainly to be a "both and" man. "I am not come to destroy the law but to fulfil it" is one saying in which Jesus made this clear.

Maybe Judas Iscariot was a revolutionary in the simple sense that John Dessauer commends; but not Jesus! However, I accept John's main point.

George Jager

Abingdon, Berks.

May I record my sincere thanks and appreciation for the contributions of Alan Pratt and John Dessauer in February, on the Christian basis of Toc H. These should be read and studied by every single member and discussed in every branch. For here we have, outlined, the fundamental purpose of Toc H. I have been a member for over 40 years and have always believed that the only real justification for the existence of Toc H is the challenge to us all "to seek in all things the mind of Christ", etc. It is in this sense that our Movement is so unique, I think. As Alan says "One of the great tasks of Toc H is to bring a simple faith to a complex community" yet, again quoting Alan, "We would do well to ask ourselves how often we conscientiously test the truth of our Christian faith". How this brings home to me my shortcomings in Toc H !

I hope, with you, that these contributions will initiate discussions on these basic issues.

Norman Barlow

Sale, Cheshire

Bouquet

I feel I must write in defence of Point Three, in view of the number of letters lately of a critical nature. How many times in the past when referring to an article in the old magazine the answer was an embarrassed silence or mutterings of "well, I haven't had a chance to read it yet." Point Three is interesting, lively, and invites comment. That, certainly, is obvious! Surely this is what we want from our mag. Point Three asks the questions and it is up to us, the Movement, to provide the answers. As a Movement we must move forward purposefully to meet the challenge of the 70's-not hang back in apprehension.

So, as K.P-B. lowers his head to the next batch of verbal missiles, let me say "carry on the good work, K.P-B., I think you're doing a grand job!"

Charles Clark

Northiam

Properties

The letters printed in the March issue on this subject contain so many irrelevancies that it is difficult to know where to begin to answer them. Both George Davis and Geoff Savill make the same basic mistake of thinking that because many people in the Movement

feel that some alteration in policy, particularly as regards the Marks, is necessary, that such people are advocating a complete abandonment of all the Movement has stood for in the past 50 years. The replies to the questionnaire revealed quite definitely that a majority of the membership felt tha sif the Marks could not be used imaginatively in relation to contemporary social needs they should be disposed of. In the light of such sentiments I feel that the Central Executive has a clear mandate to carry out such a policy, otherwise the questionnaire just becomes another worthless piece of paper.

It seems to me that a lot of people have the idea that because an organisation has a Christian basis it does not need to be efficient, and can just carry on regardless of the world around it. No George, we are not dismantling our heritage, in fact we feel strongly that some change is necessary in order for it to be maintained. You speak of Fairmindedness, yet we are also supposed "To build bravely", but we will never do this while we continually indulge in nostalgic memories of by-gone years. The attitude of "What was good enough for my father is good enough for me" is slowly but surely strangling our Movement and unless we recognise that the world about us has changed so vastly from the early days we shall die, and in my opinion deserve to do so.

It is no doubt true that it would be possible for the Marks to make a substantial contribution to the Family Purse as Geoff says, but Toc H is concerned with people, and the plain truth is that the Marks today do not attract young men for any length of time, as they used to. Their stay is all too short in most cases for us to touch them and this is why we must rethink our policy. It can only be to our benefit to have, say, ten Marks which truly reflect our ideals rather than the present set-up which is causing a lot of dissension and at the same time draining resources which could be used to better purpose.

As an interesting sidelight to the present situation, Barclay Baron reveals in one of his books that Tubby once wrote "The Movement must be decentralised at all costs". These words of wisdom were written in 1922 which only goes to prove that being revolutionary is nothing new.

John R. Morgan

Ruislip, Middx.

'OUR TIMMY HAS TO BE PUSHED OFF TO SCHOOL EVERY MORNING'

in a wheelchair

Timmy is one of the thousands of children suffering from muscular dystrophy—a wasting of the muscles which leaves its young victims crippled and helpless.

There is no treatment, no cure.

The research we buy brings the discovery of a cure that little bit nearer, but if we had the money we could do a lot more.

Will you include a small donation to us among your New Year Resolutions?

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coping with leisure

"What will you do with more leisure?" is a question already facing many people. Fish, read, play golf or watch the telly? The Rev. John Hull, of the Midland Regional staff, suggests that there is a whole dimension of living waiting to be discovered when we have the time.

There was a time when the church building was the centre of cultural and creative activity—a potential power-house of understanding, capable of making room for every aspect of man's nature. There are encouraging signs that such a use could again be found for these buildings. The church building could become the place where responsible creative thought and energy could be aired and acted upon among all age groups. It could be the focus for voluntary community service. There is no doubt that community service makes sense to young people, and it has helped to provide them with some purpose in life as well as making the lives of handicapped and lonely people richer. It might also help the church's role to seem more relevant to its critics.

The increase in the use of drugs and the struggle to achieve a state of psychedelic fantasy make us look anxiously upon such a scene of mixed priorities and indulgence. Yet I have the feeling that underlying it is a search for deeper meaning beyond the sop of the "pop" industry and sexual deviations. An understanding of beauty and spirituality has never been grasped-and now can only partly be achieved when one is drugged or Parents, churchmen, politicians, humanitarians have been inarticulate, thus allowing cranks and drug peddlars to have a field day. This is an area in which creative activity and a need for understanding beauty needs to be shown and shown quickly.

People are going to find themselves with increasing leisure time. The use of man's leisure time needs to be creative. With the progress in automation, education and even social conscience, there is a vast gap in man's understanding of beauty and the need for it to make one whole. This might be found in a tree, a flower, a symphony, a poem, a book, a picture or a brussel sprout: but there are signs

that these seeming frivolities are very much in the background of man's thoughts and understanding.

Bernard Berenson, writing in his preface to The Italian Painters of the Renaissance, says: "No artifact is a work of art if it does not help to humanize us. Without art, visual, verbal and musical, our world would have remained a jungle."

Because of a misunderstanding of progress, there is quite an area of jungle growing up. The question is, how do we cope with leisure in a jungle?

Among the people to be given more leisure time are many who would not be seen at a promenade concert, in church, in an art gallery, or even in a pub. It can be argued that more and more young people are taking an interest in music, but there are many more who remain unaffected by the enthusiasm of

A different language

a minority

We can switch on the television and hear a popular comic, and laugh if we think he's funny. Some forms of entertainment are obviously easier to understand than others. But then a celebrity recital is announced. At this point many switch over to see what is happening on the other channel. This is a different language. Over a celebrity recital there hangs a hushed atmosphere. Immediately one is given the feeling that this is for some and not others. There is also a remoteness about the celebrity, and one has the impression that he or she is some great being set apart. I'm not suggesting that everyone can, or should, remain glued to such a recital, but I'm trying to pin-point the fact that this is presented as being something for the specialist. Even if the announcer makes the point that Beethoven wrote this masterpiece while recovering from a bad attack of 'flu, we might respond "so what!" But the announcer puts it in such a way that we dare not. It's rather like being in church where people look round if you dare to sing. I'm not saying that a celebrity recital should take upon itself the atmosphere of a coach trip to Southend, but some understanding on both sides is necessary.

The presentation of any art form needs warmth. The process of helping people to understand it needs to be thought out on different lines. A starting point could be the small group of people already meeting in any one place. They could be Toc H, Women's Institutes and Townswomen's Guilds, Rotary, Round Table, Church groups, or any other

society. Such people could be made aware of the importance of the creative use of leisure. There would be some among them who were bound to have more aptitude to deal with such a need, and they might pursue the matter to suit their locality. The concern is not so much for the people who already support the efforts of the Arts Council, or go-ahead local arts circles, but for those who couldn't care less". It would be a help, too, if artists and musicians would try to explain (as informally as possible) to local groups what their art means to them and what makes them do it. This does happen to some extent on radio and television, but it is often stuffy. Some artists and musicians I have spoken to have intimated that they would welcome more opportunity to speak about their work in this way. They would obviously need to demonstrate, because in any art form there comes a time when words are insufficient and inadequate.

Eric Newton, in his European Painting and Sculpture, in a passionate account about the work of Michelangelo, points out that genius cannot always be contained in the form in which it works. There is a rare type of artist on whom the very laws of art seem to impose restrictions which leave the artist wanting to express more than his medium will allow. Beethoven in his later quartets condenses something that is somehow beyond the capacity of a full orchestra. It seems as if the boundaries of music are being over-stepped. Music itself is too small to contain him. Likewise, Shakespeare's emotional pressures. at times, strain the capacity of language to breaking point. For Michelangelo, neither marble nor paint was quite adequate.

There is another point. The very language of artistic expression can say more than mere words. Pavlova, when asked to explain a

dance she had just performed, said, "Why do you think I danced it, if I could say it?" This might seem a contradiction of what I said earlier, but I don't think so. There is a need, not so much for the artist to translate into words the work he might perform, but generally to talk about his life and what compulsion he might have to lead it. Berenson, talking about painting, suggests that talking about it is no substitute for looking at it—and that is true. But somehow we've got to get people interested enough to look.

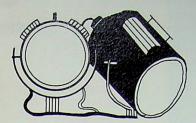
It is significant that members of the forces in Germany and, particularly, Italy, following the last war, found that the only form of entertainment was at the opera house. Out of frustration they found themselves sitting in the audience. From an experience almost thrust upon them, some gained a love for opera which they might have missed in different circumstances. The underground concerts in London during the last war provided a similar interest for many. The most unlikely people would listen to the informal broadcasts of Sir Walford Davies as he talked about music, and remember him with great affection. I hope it doesn't take a war to rekindle an interest in the arts! Perhans today the gap needs to be filled in a different way, but a generation is growing without such experiences. Quite apart from the need for man to have some means of expressing himself not just in mere words, there are those to whom this means nothing. Such people are going to have time on their hands.

The use of artists of all sorts talking informally to small groups and encouraging people to become more inventive and creative, could go a long way to help a greater number of people to get more out of life, and what's even more, enjoy it.

welcome point

The following branches elected new members during the month:

- 5—Preston Park (w).
- 4—Crediton (w), Edgmond (j), Long Eaton (w), Wortley-de-Leeds (m).
- 3—Jedburgh (m), Netherton (w).
- 2—Ayr (w), Broughton Astley (w), Guisborough (w), Higham Ferrers (w), Llanarmon-Yn-lal (m), Mold (m), Paignton (m), Sprowston (m), Stranton (w), Weymouth (w).
- 1—Catterick Village (m), Chirk (w), Derby Central (w), Dover (w), Ealing (w), Edmonton (m) Eltham (m), Falmouth (m), Fleet (w), Gillingham (m), Gorleston (w), Gorleston (m), Hartley Wintney (w), Hythe (m), Ingoldmells (m), Loughton (w), Leighton Buzzard (w), Netheravon (w), Palace Green (m), Selkirk (m), Shrewsbury (m), Sittingbourne (m), Small Heath (w), Thornaby-on-Tees (j), Toftwood (w), Uxbridge (m), Wellington (w), Willesborough (m).
- 75 new members were elected during February, to whom we extend a warm welcome.



spotlight on Crediton

Crediton women's branch have gone into the "show biz" world. For the past three winters they have put on a popular and successful pantomime. The pantomimes have not only brought them local renown and enabled them to make donations to a number of worthy causes; they have also been a means of extending their own membership. A number of those who have been invited to help with the pantomimes have become interested in Toc H and are now probationers.

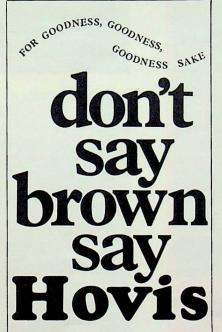
they are best known, it is far from being the only, or even the most important, job the members help with the "meals on wheels" service.

However, although this is the job for which undertaken by the ladies of Crediton. They also pay regular visits to a home for mentally handicapped women and arrange film shows at an over-60's club. In addition a number of

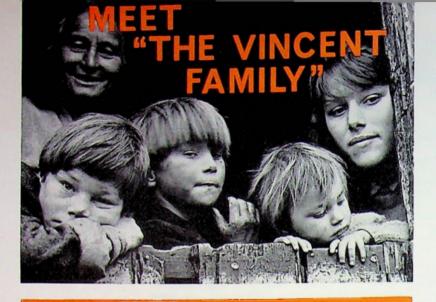
The members range in age from the early 30's to the late 50's-not forgetting the pilot, a very lively over-70. Several of them have moved to Crediton from other parts of the country, some from as far away as London and Edinburgh. The branch meets fortnightly in a very comfortable room at the Methodist Church.

According to Margaret Wollacott, to whom we are indebted for the information in this article, the Crediton ladies have the reputation of being "a lively lot". They manage to maintain close contact with the other branches in the District-despite being in a part of the country where public transport-both buses and trains-has been severely curtailed in recent years.

The willow pattern scene from the Crediton branch pantomime "Aladdin". The costumes and scenery are a credit to the enthusiasm of everybody connected with this annual performance. On opening night there was an invited audience of over 60's, and patients from a nearby hospital. Photo: Western Express & Echo.







This remarkable series of photographs of one gypsy family was taken by Tony Boxall, F.R.P.S., over a period of two years. For the Vincents the story has a happy ending. Most gypsies, unlike the Vincents, will not have the opportunity of being housed. However, this month Part II of the Caravan Sites Act comes into effect and this will enable many gypsy families to live a more settled life. It also provides Toc H members with a much better opportunity of making contact with gypsies.

Discussions on gypsies are all too often based on emotion rather than reason. On the following pages we print quotations from the report of a study carried out in 1965 and 1966 by a Sociological Research Section of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.*

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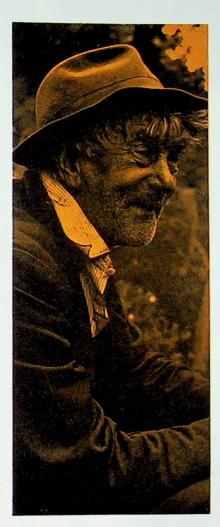
^{*}Gypsies and other travellers. HMSO 27s. 6d.

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idiness, were those







gypsies are thieves

According to information provided by Chief Constables in 1950, out of 70 police authorities who had any gypsies or other travellers in their areas, only 20 reported that they were suspected of criminal offences: in all these cases. without exception, these were restricted to minor offences such as petty thefts and poaching. The remaining 50 police authorities did not suspect travellers in their areas of any crime.

In the Ministry files, the single alleged instance of "violence" by travellers against a member of the settled population was when a local councillor who was inspecting an encampment was pushed off his motor scooter.

gypsies are parasites

These characteristics of the traveller way of life-the common non-payment of taxes and the trading in waste materials—are sometimes labelled as "parasitic". This label suggests that travellers choose to "live off the backs" of others, whereas. on the contrary, they strongly desire to be independent and self-employed, despite the immense handicap of illiteracy . . . Neither is it just to condemn dealing in waste materials as a parasitic means of earning a living since scrap collecting of all kinds serves an economic function in that it rescues useful material for which there is a demand. However the traveller scrap dealer is often guilty of leaving behind a great deal of unwanted material which someone else has the expense of clearing. Many travellers also do agricultural work for part of the year and provide a valuable mobile labour force for farmers and market gardeners.







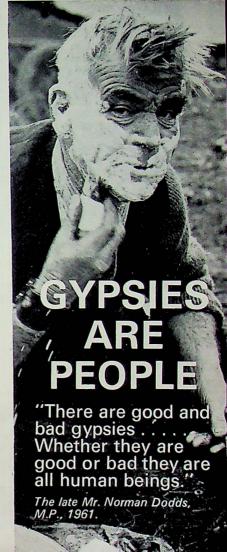
gypsies don't want their children educated

Before the war the gypsies were virtually unanimous in considering education to be a waste of time, harmful to health and generally an experience to be avoided. Little attempt seems to have been made by the authorities at that time to get gypsy children into school. This latter situation has not greatly changed, though some of the parents, probably a majority, would now like their children to go to school if only for them to be able to hold their own in a world of increased documentation and form-filling. Since the majority of families still travel. staving either from choice or necessity for relatively short periods at each place, normal education is not attainable. Our evidence suggests that at present less than 10 per cent of the children of school age are attending school, and that the great majority are still growing up illiterate.

gypsies will never settle down

The free life of the traveller where time is not the master is still an ideal and some shame is felt on abandoning it. An elderly traveller who had settled in a house reported that other members of his family had offered to club together to buy him a caravan; it was assumed that he would prefer to be on the road again. A permanently settled life is considered by many to be extremely restrictive and living in a house positively unhealthy. Nevertheless, possibly because of the increased difficulties involved in travelling, and also because motorisation enables families to cover a large area from one base, the majority of families now wish to settle.





newspoint



89 YEARS' FAMILY SERVICE

How is your arithmetic? Deduct 1925 from 1970 and 1926 from 1970, add the two results, and we think you will arrive at a figure of 89-which, believe it or not, is the number of years of unbroken service Mary and Jack Collins have given to Toc H through their membership of the Streatham branches. They are both foundation members of their respective branches and throughout the years have given willing service in so many ways whenever jobs have come up in the branch, that it is impossible to single out one special job. From such a wide field perhaps Mary's membership of the Toc H Cosmopolitan Concert Party could be selected. She was, for its entire existence, the contralto soloist, with a rehearsal every week and a concert most weeks. In contrast, Jack visited every week for about 23 years a paralysed Australian soldier of the first world war, who remained in this country but had few friends. This visitation went on until the soldier's death. They have both given years of service in visiting and helping patients at the Royal Home and Hospital for Incurables, which they still do with customary vigour and amazing faithfulness week by week.

"Give us a break, mate!"

"Give us a break, mate!" was the theme of the winning entry, submitted by Arthur Bonny, in a competition to suggest a new job, arranged by Uxbridge branch. "Us" are the people who look after the housebound and who are therefore just as housebound themselves. The job—to provide "sitters in" to give "us" a break. Say Uxbridge: "Other branches are welcome to copy."

World famous dancers help with Festival climax

The climax of the Festival Evening at the Royal Albert Hall on June 20 will be a dramatic presentation of contemporary dance on the theme of "Light". "Light" has been created by International Secretary Dora Bullivant with help and encouragement from David Toguri, the assistant dance director of "Hair", and William Lowther, a soloist with the Martha Graham Dance Company and one of the world's top dancers. The Institute of Contemporary Arts is also very excited about Dora's plans and intend to put on their own production of "Light" later in the year. "I have been tremendously encouraged by the reaction of all the professionals to whom I

Friendship Week Conference in London

The effect on families of the presence of a chronic sick or handicapped child will form the theme of a one-day conference to be held in May by the six societies organising Friendship Week for Sick and Handicapped Children.

The conference, which is on Tuesday May 19 at the Royal College of Surgeons, London, is the first to be organised by the group. It is intended for a professional audience of doctors, health visitors, social workers, journalists and others interested in health and welfare work. Topics to be covered are "The Family and the Community"; "Hospital and Home"; "The Psychological Backlash"; "State Provision"; and "The Role of Voluntary Societies". Further information can be obtained from the Friendship Week Conference Secretary. 74 Denison House, Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, S.W.1.

have spoken," Dora told us, "and by the willingness of well-known dancers to give their time to this kind of project."

The leading roles will be danced by professionals. The chorus will consist of 60 young people, including art students from Stockwell, members of drama clubs in Croydon and Notting Hill, and members of youth clubs all over London.

Mock trial raises funds

Queenstown branch, South Africa, raised over R200 (£100) with a mock trial held in November. In addition it provided an evening of good fun and further improved the image and understanding of Toc H, which was already held in high esteem in Queenstown.

Over 150 summonses were sent out to leading citizens on a variety of trumped up charges. The Library Theatre was packed out when the "Toc H Supreme Court of Injustice" went into session. The accused were arraigned before an awesome tribunal; Judge Eddie Whelan, in a moth-eaten wig; Ron Macdonald in a black gown, as prosecutor, to ensure that justice was dispensed with; and Les Tucker, as Shark of the Court, saw to it that the scales of justice were heavily weighted against the victims, all of whom were naturally found guilty despite the eloquent and humorous efforts of the defence counsel, Phil Corbin.

Many had already paid admission of guilt fines in advance, often well above the sum demanded, but many others turned up to put up a defence and add to the fun of the evening.

Eric Oldham, branch chairman, assured the audience that the money would be put to good use among various good causes in the community.

From The Compass

Volunteer group in Mold

The Volunteer group in Mold has just completed its first year of work. A letter from Colby Bunting tells us that "the group began as a result of the enthusiasm of two of our youngest members. It is now about 12 strong, consisting of men and women in their late teens. We in Mold are proud of them and of the jobs they are doing." The group have made a donation of £6.6s. to Mold branch "with specific instructions that it be added to the branch's contribution to the Family Purse".

KENDAL DISCUSS TV OBSCENITY

Harold Speight

"Pete" Pashley's remarks on obscenity on TV (Point Three, October 1969) provoked much discussion in Kendal branch during a recent Journal Night. It was agreed that "there is something rotten in the state of Britain" and that obscenity is not confined to TV alone. One speaker said that Lord Shawcross had summed this matter up most forcefully in an address some years ago and quoted the following from a newspaper cutting:

"From some films, theatres, television, paperbacks and newspapers it might be thought that crime, greed, lust and sex were the normal, accepted commonplaces of society. You may be as puzzled as I am about these exhibitionist intellectuals, these psychiatrists in a small way of business, these publicity-seeking clerics who talk about the new morality. There is no such thing. This so-called new morality is too often the old immorality condoned. The great principles of good or evil, kindness or cruelty, generosity or selfishness, love or lust, do not change because some confused bishop writes a book about them. The causes of sorrow, evil and crime remain as 1,000 years ago-lust, cruelty and greed. Discard

800 share a loaf at "Love Feast"

Members of Hemel Hempstead branch were among the 800 Christians who shared one five foot loaf at a "Christian Love Feast" held to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The service, which was sponsored by the Council of Churches, was intended not only as a symbol of Christian fellowship but as an attempt to relate Christianity to the modern world of science and industry and the universal problems of war, hunger, poverty, disease and intolerance. During the service 11 people, including one of the Toc H members, explained briefly how they were "fellow workers for God". Three students from the grammar school sang a folk song called "Fair Shares for All", accompanied by slides, leading up to an act of confession of disunity.

by all means the outworn traditions and sometimes the hypocrisies of the old days. But not all traditions are outworn nor all the old virtues hypocrisies." The branch unanimously agreed that Toc H should deplore the lack of censorship in this "permissive" society, which might well be called a "pernicious" society.

Having fun with painting

Keighley branch believes in making its branch room available to the community, and every Tuesday evening an art group meets there. The 16 members of the art group started "from scratch" about two years ago and have just held their first exhibition. Among the members are a retired chemist, a mill worker, a salesman, a baker, a nursing sister, clerical workers and housewives—as good a mixture as most Toc H branches can claim.



A large assembly of members and friends gathered at Leeds University to meet Sandy Giles on his recent visit. With him in the picture are Tommy Asquith—Chairman, East Yorks. Area (left), and Jimmy Cliffe—Chairman, West Yorks. Area (right).

Photo: Yorkshire Post-

Blind boys take part in walk

Two boys from a home for the blind took part in a 20 mile sponsored walk organised by Sevenoaks branch. They completed the walk, piloted by members of the branch. As a result of the walk the branch have been able to present Stan Berwick, former Hon. Treasurer of Toc H, in his capacity as President of the League of Friends of Sevenoaks Hospital, with a cheque for over £800. This money will be used to pay off the deficit on the hospital's new hydrotherapy pool.

In all 160 young people from local schools and youth organisations took part in the walk. Only six of them failed to complete the course. Among those who did finish was a boy who had recently broken his leg. "He, lucky lad, was pushed the whole 20 miles in a

wheelchair," writes Derek Edwards, chairman of Sevenoaks branch, "but his sponsors still paid up. His ride raised £3.10s. And his pushers still had enough energy to visit someone in the hospital."

Members from Sevenoaks and Borough Green branches manned the checkpoints, distributed hot soup to the participants at the finish and drove home those walkers who had no other means of transport immediately avail-

CORRECTION

Line 4 of the first verse of the hymn Light with thy Holy Spirit, published last month, should have read "Arise upon our living thought". Our sincere apologies to John Jones and to all those whose attempts to rehearse the hymn were made unnecessarily difficult.

Radio "a missionary movement".

Keith Beck

"Pop music is a medium of communication for a whole generation." . . . "Many people switch on their radio for words, not music: lonely and elderly people need and use the spoken words on the radio as company." These were among the comments made by Frank Gillard. former Director of Sound Broadcasting. when he visited Wellington (Somerset) branch recently. Frank recalled that he was no stranger to the branch or to its meeting place, having been a member there in its early days. A former District secretary and chairman, and for some time hon. Area secretary, his first broadcast had been one of half-an-hour during a South West Area Festival at

Speaking of local radio stations, he revealed that the average age of those producing programmes was under 30, and that the intensive six and seven hours' broadcasting daily of local news, including hour by hour reports on Council debates etc., brought in almost endless telephone calls which were broadcast as received, providing a forum for the whole community on the lines of those of the ancient Greek city states. Few people realised that the BBC broadcast daily in 40 languages on 70 transmitters, exceeding all British radio and TV channels' output. "English by radio" was relayed over 269 stations throughout the world, while another 50 relayed "English by TV." "The BBC is more influential in the world than many countries with seats at the United Nations."

Many who listen to radio broadcasts are illiterate, and some have little hope of ever learning to read or write, yet they are acquiring literacy of another kind through their listening. "Over 25

Believe it or not . . .

"We have a very nice meeting room but we wouldn't invite any young people. They might wreck it".

(Overheard at a Toc H gathering.)



Every Saturday a second-hand bookstall is erected at Corsham and the proceeds are given to the local guide dog for the blind fund. The stall is run by Corsham Toc H and now Ivor Thomas Tilley, who was blinded by a motor-cycle accident, has become a Toc H member.

Ivor and his dog "Dolly" are well known in the district and among his spare time activities Ivor includes the blind social club in Chippenham, where he is chairman, the local Guide Dog Association and lay-preaching. The photograph shows John Blythe, who is also blind. Des Harris, Jim Mines and Charles Evans. Seated: Ivor Tilley, "Dolly" and Walter Martin. Photo by Reg Coates.

million Japanese radio sets are imported into Africa each year . . . broadcasting has a responsibility for opening up a new realisation of world citizenship for many primitive tribal peoples of that continent."

Looking into the future, Frank Gillard forecast that homes would be wired up for radio and television reception as a "mains service" (like electricity and the telephone). Laser beams would enable programmes to be "piped" into every home, and it would be possible to dial in to a central "library" or "memory bank" where thousands of programmes could be stored. Cassettes of TV programmes, like those for tape recorders, would be available for insertion into the domestic set.

"Radio is the finest missionary movement in the world which the churches could have at their disposal, if only they would realise this and develop its potential" was the concluding remark of an outstanding talk, which was followed by vigorous questions and discussion from the Wellington and Taunton branch members who were privileged to be "tuned in" for the evening's programme.

Just a little attention

You need to search a long way back to find the first Toc H branch to begin chopping firewood for elderly people, but few branches can equal the record of Buckland-in-Dover members who have just given away their 50,000th bundle of wood. Wood-chopping itself is no longer national news in Toc H but dedicated service of this nature should not go unrecorded.

The Dover Express writes, "for those elderly and needy people who can't manage this task for themselves it's good to feel that someone cares—and it's many a heart as well as a hearth that must be warmed by this little attention."

21st birthday gift

Lady members in Stowmarket celebrated the branch's 21st birthday by presenting the town's doctors with a cheque for £40. The money will be used to buy an instrument for detecting anaemia.

Dial-a-problem Centre at New Addington

Voluntary social service groups in New Addington, among them the Samaritans and Toc H, have started a problems advisory centre for local residents. The service will begin as a telephone answering service based at the Clergy Flats, New Addington. Each day at a pre-arranged time a volunteer will sit by the phone to take down queries and refer the callers to an appropriate body best able to offer further assistance.

A full list of social services and council departments has been prepared and the organisers hope to add to this as the service gets recognised.

The group undertaking this project have explained that "this is not an emergency service to deal with suicide calls or anything like that, although we may graduate to that later."

It is hoped that the service will qualify for a council grant and that member groups will make annual donations to the work.

Name etched for a shilling

Merseyside's labour-saving gimmick—letting guests at a coffee evening take away their cup—was reported in our September issue. They have now taken the idea a stage further. At a recent wine and cheese party the glasses were again given away—"Aren't we a lazy lot on Merseyside?" comments Doris Longley, "we abhor washing up!" And for an extra shilling guests could have their name etched on the glass. Not only did this make for a financially successful evening, it also brought a good deal of local publicity.

UXBRIDGE SHELTER MEETING

Over 90 people attended a public meeting called by Uxbridge branch to discuss the formation of a Shelter group. Dr. J. Topping, the Principal and Vice Chancellor of Brunel University took the chair and the speaker was Jon Rake, Shelter's London regional organiser. Of the 90 people present 32 stated that they would join a Shelter group if one was formed and 11 people volunteered to sit on the steering committee.

The remarkable story of Miss Dibden

The name of Miss Mildred Dibden is well known to many members of Toc H, both in this country and in Hong Kong. Now a biography of this courageous and devoted woman has been published under the title *The Yip Family of Amah Rock*. The book tells the story of her life, from her first call to missionary work, through the war years when she

somehow kept the baby home going throughout the period of Japanese occupation, to her decision to return to England with her "family". It is a remarkable and inspiring story. Copies of the book may be obtained, price 18s.6d. including postage, from Mrs. C. M. Bird, 7A, Stafford Road, Southsea, Hants. PO5 2AD.

CO-ORDINATOR OF SERVICE SOUGHT

Last year a meeting was held in Norwich, as in many other places up and down the country, of representatives of Rotary, Round Table, Toc H, WRVS, Inner Wheel and other organisations to discuss the sharing of information and ideas. They have now decided that just meeting once or twice a year is not enough and they are looking for some-

one willing to act as a co-ordinator. His or her functions are described as: "to provide information to the groups to prevent overlapping, suggest where help is needed, contact other charitable agencies and, by giving groups the benefit of others' experience, ensure that the available manpower is deployed in the best way."

Now you know!

The other day Simon Allard's daughter Amanda found a Toc H badge on the floor. She brought it to him saying: "Daddy, this must be yours because it's got a teapot on it".

The Society of Friends, St. Albans, together with Toc H organised an international party at the Friends House. Nearly 100 parents and children of all nationalities turned up for the party, including Indians, West Indians, Africans, Belgians, Britons and Malays. The aim of the party was to promote friendship between people of all nations. Photo: Herts Adventiser.



These cooks for a very special occasion are members of New Addington Toc H. They invited handicapped members of the Tortoise Club and their helpers to a dinner at the Pop Inn, and provided a dinner of soup, turkey, vegetables and trifle.

"It gave the helpers a bit of a rest", said one of the members, "after all they are just as much a part of the club as the handicapped themselves." Photo: Croydon Advertises.



picture point



Visitors to the luncheon club at Prideaux House can be sure of a very warm smile from the supervisor Miss Ann Brace. The curly haired gentleman in the background is Gualter de Mello, Warden of the house.

Photo: Hackney Gazette,

personality point

The Staff will be at their annual conference from April 13-17 in Cambridge.

Hon. staff. Mrs. Isabel Campbell, 49 Montrose Road, Foxbar, Paisley, Renfrewshire, has been appointed to the honorary staff in Scotland, in succession to Bob Leslie, who has had to resign due to ill-health Miss Rose Radford, 84 Wentworth Road, Birmingham, 17, has been appointed to the honorary staff in the West Midlands Area.

Membership Rolls are due to be completed and returned by April 15. New membership cards will be issued this year direct from Headquarters.

The annual meetings of the **Central Council** will in future be held in the autumn. The next meeting will be from October 23-25 at The Hayes, Swanwick, Derbyshire. It will be the first of a newly elected integrated Council.

Leaders of the Art and Music week at Dor Knap, July 25 to August 1, will be Col. John Davies and the Rev. John Hull. All enquiries/ applications to John Hull at 29 Mountview Road, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex.

A Music Festival is being organised by the Merseyside District. The concert will be at the Royal Liverpool Philarmonic Hall on September 26 and will include two brass bands and a choir. Details and booking forms from Doris Longley, c/o Longley's Agency, 51 Moorfields, Liverpool 2.



Jack Millar, newly appointed Hon. Area Padre for Scotland, was born in Dalmellington, Ayrshire, almost 49 years ago, and was educated there and at Ayr Academy before going to Glasgow University where he graduated M.A. His studies continued at Trinity College, Glasgow, and in 1946 he entered the Ministry of the Church of Scotland.

Then in 1960 he trained as a teacher at Moray House College of Education, Edinburgh. During this time he lived in Selkirk and it was there that Jack became interested in Toc H and joined the local branch. After a year's course of training he taught at Peebles High School, then at Selkirk High School.

In 1964 he became specialist teacher in religious education at Glenrothes High School, a large new school in a fast-growing new town. The school population is about 850 but this is expected to grow to something like 1400 or 1500. The work puts Jack in touch with every pupil in the school. A situation which will not go unnoticed by our new projects co-ordinator.

Apart from normal duties at school, Jack, who is a married man, is in constant demand as a Pulpit Supply and is presently helping in a vacant charge. In an interview with *Point Three* Jack said that he was delighted with his new post for Toc H and intends to set off on his rounds very soon. His address is 70 Napier Road, Glenrothes, Fife.

obituary

We regret to announce the death of the following members:

In July: Charles W. Carter (Crawley). In September: Henry L. Saunders (Uxbridge) In October: Norman N. Templeton (W. Midlands Area). In December: Anna L. Beal (Parkstone), Alice Broadhurst (Kings Norton & Northfield), Albert J. Keylock (Chichester), Walter W. H. Lawrence (Milton & Eastney), John R. S. Lloyd (Welshpool), Herbert G. Notman (Paignton), E. William Protheroe (Builth Wells). In January: Arthur H. Baker (Charing), Jim T. Dawson (Newcastle), Kenneth T. Morton (Camberwell & Dulwich), M. E. C. Saunders (Central). In February: Marjorie M. Cawsey (S. W. Area), H. H. Drew (Central), Elsie E. Duffield (Clacton-on-Sea), Harry Foreman (Higham Ferrers), Edward Harrison (Downend), Charles E. Eastlake (Newington), Arthur G. Hill (Mill Hill), Reginald T. Kidd (Cromer), Charles A. Luxton (Chippenham), Joseph Morris (Long Eaton), George F. Round (Netherton). We give thanks for their lives.

The Humbling of Chanticleer

Who took to his own credit the triumph of the sunset.

New Member:

I've done a fine thing I
Hey ding-a-ding-ding I
I've done a fine thing, a fine thing I

Old Members:

What is this fine thing, You boastfully sing? We doubt it I Hey ding-a-ding-ding I

New Member:

I've done a good deed At the top of my speed. So here am I! Hey ding-a-ding!

Old Members:

Nay self-satisfaction Corrodes a good action. God save us I He's done a good thing I New Member:

You snub me and doubt me; You're better without me— I'll go my own way—ding-a-ding l

Old Members:

No don't! For its lonely; We commented only:— "Don't brag when you've done a good thing."

New Member:

Since thinking upon it, The bee in my bonnet, Good brothers, is now on the wing.

Old Members:

Toc H it can tell, oh!
You're not the first fellow
To think he has done a fine thing.

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OBERAMMERGAU. Special offers, with or without tour: Good Companions, 11(h) Donnington Road, Kenton, Harrow, Middx.

GREEN SHIELD STAMPS urgently required for providing better heating for old people. Please send books or loose stamps to The Stowe Community Service, Buckingham.

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CORNWALL, PENTEWAN. 4-berth Caravan: from 6-9 guineas. S.A.E. Oldnall, 82 Exeter Road, Smethwick, Worcs.

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